

AMERICA'S CUP WORLD SERIES HOST COMMITTEE
MEETING OF ENVIRONMENTAL/SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS
PUBLIC SESSION
APRIL 25, 2012

The America's Cup World Series Host Environmental/Sustainability Subcommittee met on Wednesday, April 25, 2012, in Public Session, beginning at 9:30 a.m., at the Newport Police Station, Newport, RI pursuant to notice of the meeting to all subcommittee members, and public notice of the meeting, a copy of which is attached hereto.

In attendance: Ms. Janet Coit (Co-chair), Ms. Annie Brett (co-chair), Mr. Brad Read, Mr. Larry Mouradjian, Mr. Ron Gagnon, Ms. Lauren Carson, Mr. Arek Galle, Mr. Kristin Littlefield

OPENING REMARKS

Ms. Coit called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 4, 2012

The minutes of April 4, 2012 were approved unanimously.

Ms. Coit and Ms. Brett noted that at the previous meeting the question of composting had not been resolved. Mr. Gagnon confirmed that the facility in Massachusetts is the closest that can handle the projected volume and the compostable service ware that will be used.

Mr. Read gave a brief update on the status of the event. The timeline remains unchanged from the previous subcommittee meeting, with racing to being on June 27, 2012. Tickets are currently priced at \$10/person.

Ms. Coit gave an overview of what the subcommittee is looking for in a conservation activity; something that sailors and public can engage in, that will leave a legacy after the event is over. For logistical reasons, they prefer something on site that is easily accessible.

Mr. Galle described the proposed rain garden project. Parking spaces in the large south lot would be converted to five small bio-retention areas made up of shallow basins with filtration media and native plantings. This would improve water quality and reduce discharge to Brenton Cove. The location is highly visible, and the connection between work in the lot and water draining into the cove is clear, making it ideal as an outreach project. The conservation activity itself would involve the end stages of installing loam, mulch and plantings. Work prior to this (removing pavement, etc.) would be done by Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM).

Ms. Coit raised the questions of cost, timeline, required preparation, and overseeing the activity.

On the subject of cost, Ms. Brett noted that America's Cup Event Authority (ACEA) won't provide funding; prior conservation activities have received little/no funding. Mr. Galle noted that full cost estimates have not been carried out yet. He also noted that there is a good possibility that plantings, etc., may be donated by local businesses, perhaps a different donor for each basin. Ms. Coit emphasized that it is critical that plantings be native species; she will work on getting plant lists from URI.

Timeline: Mr. Mouradjian emphasized the short amount of time. There will be many different moving pieces would need to be taken care of. RIDEM would need to assist with heavy equipment for tearing up pavement, etc., as well as securing materials such as mulch. Mr. Mouradjian will need funds up front for this. Mr. Galle and his group can provide design, timeline and coordination on the day of the activity. Ms. Brett confirmed that the activity would be either June 25, 2012, or June 26, 2012; the subcommittee expressed a preference for June 26, 2012. There may be limited space in the activity; an estimated 50 people will need to be included (sailors, committee members, etc.)

Mr. Read noted that there are many people interested in volunteering. It may be possible to target more volunteers prior to the event to work on preparation. Kids sailing on the weekend can also be involved; cleaning up around site, etc. Ms. Brett and Mr. Read will work on including this in NOR.

The subcommittee unanimously voted in favor of moving forward with the rain garden project. Mr. Mouradjian, Mr. Galle and Mr. Read planned to tour the site directly after the meeting and discuss how to keep needed parking spaces and begin next steps. They will also investigate the runoff river that flows into Sail Newport to see if anything can be done about this issue. Mr. Mouradjian is the point person for RIDEM; Ms. Coit and Ms. Brett will be updated on the situation.

Ms. Brett addressed some questions about water distribution on site. There are many pieces that still need to be confirmed. Zip2Water station will be at Sail Newport, and can be utilized in some way for event. The question was raised as to where spectators can get bottles. ACEA is planning on selling them, though it is not certain yet. Can reusable bottles be brought on site? Yes, but not encouraged. Ms. Brett will follow up with Ms. Maffei Plowden on water issues. There will be a need for multiple water stations, receptacles, cups, bottles, etc., available throughout the site for free. Consideration should also be taken into account for run-off from filling stations.

Ms. Brett brought up a question raised at a past meeting relating to which sustainable seafood standards will be used for caterers. Ms. Coit has followed up on this, will continue to do so and forward the information to the subcommittee. It is important to promote local seafood. Also, there may be an opportunity to do sustainable seafood cooking demos in URI lecture series. Ms. Coit will also follow up on this and reach out to appropriate organizations.

Ms. Littlefield is curious what is happening around waste collection. Mr. Harden is putting out an RFP through RIEDC regarding trash pickup on site. A trash hauler hasn't been chosen yet, but it isn't expected to be a problem.

Ms. Brett brought up the topic of messaging. There is room for small sustainability messaging on event website; this can be created and reviewed by the subcommittee before it is posted. Ms. Coit would also like to make sure to coordinate with America's Cup media people for release around sustainability with DEM, Newport, Sailors for the Sea, etc. Once the event starts, attention will be around racing, so makes sense to do something like this in the lead up. Ms. Carson emphasized that there is a lack of understanding in the community about this aspect of the event.

CLOSING REMARKS

Next meeting will be May 9 at 8:30 at the Newport Police Station.